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Session 1960

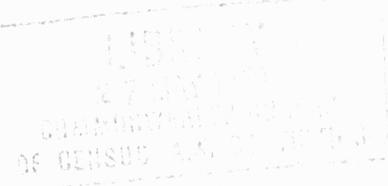
15th May, 1960

B.C.S. 1960/3

NEW SOUTH WALES

DIGEST OF CURRENT STATISTICS

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G E N E R A L = New South Wales

Over the past twelve months a steady advance in economic activity has been sustained. Employment, factory production and building activity have continued to expand, money and trade turnovers have increased and governmental revenues have been buoyant. Latterly there has been a material acceleration in the hitherto moderate upward trend of prices and wages.

Dry weather during the early winter had caused some deterioration in pastures and retarded sowing preparations but useful rains in May improved the outlook. Wool deliveries have been heavy. A small rise in wool prices in March and April was not maintained after Easter, but wool prices have fluctuated only within a narrow range during this season.

PART I : EMPLOYMENT AND NON-RURAL INDUSTRIES

EMPLOYMENT. (See also graph p. 43).

Commonwealth Employment Service offices report a further increase in the labour demand in April 1960. During the month there were decreases in Australia in the number of unplaced applicants of 2,600 to 51,600 and in the number of persons on unemployment benefit of 400 to 17,700.

In New South Wales unplaced applicants for employment were reduced in April by 900 to 17,500 and were then 11,100 and 6,500 less than one and two years previously. There was an increase in factory employment and more labour was engaged on public works projects. The decrease in unplaced applicants was confined to females. There was a small rise in the number of men on unemployment benefit, counter-balanced by a decline for women leaving the total at 6,000 persons or one half the total in April 1959. Unfilled vacancies totalling 14,100 (for 9,100 men and 5,000 women) were nearly twice as high as in April 1959 and 1958.

COMMONWEALTH EMPLOYMENT SERVICE AND UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS

End of Month	1951	1952	1958	1959		1960	
	August	December	April	March	April	March	April
NEW SOUTH WALES (Including A.C.T.)							
UNPLACED APPLICANTS,							
Not at Work: Males	2,800	28,600	15,800	18,200	18,500	9,700	9,800
Females	1,500	7,100	8,200	9,900	10,100	8,700	7,700
Metrop. Persons	n.a.	28,600	13,100	14,800	15,200	8,200	8,000
Rest/State "	n.a.	7,100	10,900	13,300	13,400	10,200	9,500
Total	4,300	35,700	24,000	28,100	28,600	18,400	17,500
EMPLOYED APPLICANTS							
Seeking Change of Job	4,300	3,000	4,400	6,300	6,500	6,700	6,400
VACANCIES Remaining							
Unfilled	58,900	5,900	7,300	8,100	7,800	14,700	14,100
Persons receiving UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFIT	100	25,100	9,600	12,000	12,000	6,000	6,000
A U S T R A L I A							
UNPLACED APPLICANTS,							
Not at Work	8,900	66,400	67,300	69,300	69,200	54,200	51,600
UNFILLED VACANCIES	139,000	20,900	18,000	21,700	20,900	34,000	32,300
Persons Receiving UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFIT	300	42,000	26,800	27,700	26,800	18,100	17,700

A survey of larger privately-owned factories in New South Wales (by the Department of Labour and National Service and the Commonwealth Statistician) shows progressive increases in employment since the second half of 1959. Employees in these factories numbered 234,300 in April, 1960 which was 12,700 or 6 percent. more than in April, 1959. Increases occurred during April mainly in the basic metal, sheet metal and electrical (including television) industries whilst there was some slackness in the motor and aircraft industries as well as seasonal lay-offs in dairy, fruit and vegetable processing factories. The increase over the past twelve months was spread over all the major industry groups.

Out of 736 reporting firms 58 percent. had no appreciable staff change during April, 23 percent. increased staff and 19 percent. reduced staff; 63 percent of the firms employed some staff on overtime.

EMPLOYMENT IN LARGER PRIVATE FACTORIES SURVEYED - New South Wales

Industrial Group	Apr. '57	Apr. '58	Mar. '59	Apr. '59	Feb. '60	Mar. '60	Apr. '60
Building Materials	16,500	16,800	16,700	16,700	16,900	17,100	17,100
Basic Materials	36,300	38,300	39,200	39,500	41,500	41,900	42,200
Transport Equipment	21,100	22,500	21,300	21,400	22,600	22,500	22,400
Other Metal Mfrs.	52,100	53,800	53,800	54,000	57,600	58,400	58,600
Chemical Products	11,800	12,200	12,500	12,600	13,000	13,000	13,000
Clothing & Textiles	31,200	31,100	30,000	30,100	31,100	31,400	31,400
Food, Drink, Tobacco	21,500	21,000	22,200	21,400	23,300	22,700	22,300
Other Industry	25,700	26,100	25,700	25,900	27,200	27,200	27,300
Total: Men	163,800	168,500	169,000	169,300	176,200	176,700	176,800
Women	52,400	53,300	52,400	52,300	57,000	57,500	57,500
Persons	216,200	221,800	221,400	221,600	232,200	234,200	234,300
Total, excl. Food, etc.	194,700	200,800	199,200	200,200	209,800	211,500	212,000

Civilian employment (excluding defence forces, rural workers and women in private domestic service) in New South Wales rose in February 1960 by 7,400 to a peak of 1,171,400 making an increase of 36,900 or 3.1 percent. since February 1959. The twelve months increase matched those of the buoyant years 1954-55 and 1955-56 and compares with increases (equal to less than 1 percent.) in each of the three years ended February of 8,500 in 1957, 9,500 in 1958 and 3,300 in 1959. The increases in 1959-60 were proportionally greater for private than for Government, and for female than for male employment.

The principal increases during February 1960 were in factory and education employment. Factories, which gained 21,100 or 5 percent., accounted for more than one half of the increase between February 1959 and 1960, and employment increased substantially over the year in building (after a decline in 1957-58), finance, trade, health and education. There was little change in transport during the past two years and a decline of 500 in mining employees in 1959-60 brought the total decrease in that group over the past three years to 6,300 or 21 percent.

WAGE AND SALARY EARNERS IN CIVIL EMPLOYMENT - New South Wales

Month	Males		Females		Government		Private		Persons	
										Total
1951 - November	778,100		298,600		248,300		826,400		1,076,700	
1954 - January	760,100		281,100		245,100		795,100		1,041,200	
1958 - February	815,300		315,900		264,100		867,100		1,131,200	
1959 - February	816,600		317,900		270,400		864,100		1,134,500	
- December	832,100		331,600		269,900		893,800		1,163,700	
1960 - January	834,900		329,100		271,300		892,700		1,164,000	
February	837,900		333,500		272,400		899,000		1,171,400	
February	Mining & Quarrying	Factories	Building & Construction	Transport & Common. Comm.	Finance & Property	Whole. Trade	Retail Trade	Prof. & Personal Services	TOTAL Incl. Others	
1958	27,300	431,500	71,700	132,300	45,800	70,100	99,100	167,700	1,131,200	
1959	23,600	432,100	70,100	132,800	47,900	70,400	98,000	172,000	1,134,500	
1960	23,100	453,200	73,700	132,200	51,200	72,100	100,300	177,400	1,171,400	

POPULATION = New South Wales and Australia

Births numbered 80,900 in New South Wales and 227,000 in Australia in 1959, and were 900 and 4,500 respectively more than in 1958. However, births per 1000 of mean population of 21.5 for the State and 22.6 for Australia were a little less than in the two previous years. The number and rates of deaths per 1000 also increased, reducing the net gain in population from natural increase by 2100 (to 45,600) in New South Wales and by 1000 (to 137,800) in Australia compared with 1958.

The net population gain from migration was 19,000 in New South Wales and 76,800 in Australia but the net immigration rate of 7.6 per 1000 of the Australian population remained less than in most post-war years. The rate of increase in population in Australia declined from 2.45 percent. in 1955 to 2.08 percent. in 1958 but rose slightly to 2.16 percent. in 1959.

In New South Wales in 1959 the birth rate was the lowest and the death rate the highest for any Australian State, as had been the case for every year since 1950 for births and since 1954 for deaths. The recorded net migration rate of 5.1 per 1000 of population was also well below the Australian average, and the greater gains were again in Victoria and South Australia. The percentage increase in population in 1959 was lowest in Queensland (1.6 percent. where the relatively high birthrate did not compensate for relatively low migration), followed by New South Wales (1.7 percent.), Western Australia (1.8 percent.), Tasmania (2.3 percent.), Victoria (2.6 percent.) and South Australia (2.9 percent.).

ELEMENTS OF POPULATION INCREASE

	NEW SOUTH WALES					AUSTRALIA			
	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1955	1956	1957	1958
Persons									
Births	74,400	75,700	79,400	80,000	80,900	212,100	220,400	222,500	227,000
Deaths	32,600	34,100	33,300	32,300	35,300	86,100	85,000	83,700	89,200
Natural Increase	41,800	41,600	46,100	47,700	45,600	126,000	135,400	138,800	137,800
Net Migration	21,800	20,800	26,000	17,500	19,000	94,000	78,700	65,300	76,800
TOTAL INCREASE	63,600	62,400	72,100	65,200	64,600	220,000	214,100	204,100	214,600
Rate per thousand of Mean Population									
Births	21.3	21.3	21.9	21.7	21.5	22.5	22.8	22.6	22.6
Deaths	9.3	9.6	9.2	8.8	9.4	9.1	8.8	8.5	8.9
Natural Increase	12.0	11.7	12.7	12.9	12.1	13.4	14.0	14.1	13.7
Net Migration	6.2	5.8	7.2	4.7	5.1	10.0	8.2	6.6	7.6
Population Increase per Hundred of Population at 31st December of Previous Year									
	1.84	1.77	2.01	1.78	1.73	2.36	2.25	2.09	2.16
New South Wales as percent. of Australia									
Births	35.8	35.7	35.1	36.0	35.6				
Deaths	39.7	39.6	39.2	38.6	39.5				
Natural Increase	33.3	33.0	34.1	34.4	33.1				
Net Migration	22.4	22.1	33.0	26.8	24.7				
TOTAL INCREASE	28.5	28.4	33.7	31.9	30.1				

The Australian population rose by 214,600 to 10,166,200 in 1959, as compared with increases of 204,100 in 1958 and 214,100 in 1957 and of over 220,000 in 1956 and 1955 and in the high-migration years 1949 to 1951. The New South Wales share in Australia's population has fallen each year since the war and is now its lowest since 1911. In 1959 it was 37.3 percent., as compared with 37.4 percent. in 1958 and 39.4 percent. at the 1947 Census. Queensland's proportion has also declined gradually. In 1959, as in earlier years, the greater relative gains accrued in Victoria and South Australia.

POPULATION OF AUSTRALIA

	Census		December			Census		December	
	1933	1954	1957	1958	1959	1933	1947	1958	1959
	Thousand Persons					Percent.			
New South Wales	2,601	3,424	3,660	3,726	3,790	39.2	39.4	37.4	37.3
Victoria	1,820	2,452	2,701	2,771	2,843	27.5	27.1	27.9	28.0
Queensland	947	1,618	1,401	1,425	1,447	14.3	14.6	14.3	14.2
South Australia	581	797	886	908	934	8.8	8.5	9.1	9.2
Western Australia	439	640	700	714	727	6.6	6.6	7.2	7.1
Tasmania	228	309	341	346	355	3.4	3.4	3.5	3.5
Northern Territory	5	16	19	19	20	.1	.2	.2	.2
Aust. Cap. Territory	9	30	39	43	50	.1	.2	.4	.5
Australia	16,630	8,986	9,747	9,952	10,166	100%	100%	100%	100%

INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES - New South Wales

Final figures, prepared by the Department of Labour and Industry, show that the incidence of industrial disputes in New South Wales in 1959 was lower than at any time since the early 1930's. There were 195,000 man-working days lost as compared with 215,000 in 1958 and more than 400,000 in any of the twenty-two preceding years.

Dispute losses in New South Wales coal mines of 61,000 man-working days were about one half of those in 1958 and only a fraction of the losses in any other year since 1933. They were equivalent to an average of about four shifts per mine worker employed. Joint Coal Board compilations indicate that man shifts lost through disputes in the year 1958-59 were equivalent to 2 percent. of possible shifts and tonnage lost 3 percent. of possible tonnage.

Man-Working days lost in other industries in 1959, totalling 134,000, though 47 percent. more than in 1958 were lower than in any other year since 1940. The 1959 total included 56,000 man-working days (26,000 in 1958) in manufacturing, mainly in the metal trades, 28,000 (6,000) in building and construction, 21,000 (31,000) in stevedoring and 9,000 (3,000) in metalliferous mines. Losses in stevedoring were equivalent to about 2 shifts, and in metalliferous mines to $1\frac{1}{2}$ shifts per man employed but in the other groups they were not significant in terms of persons employed.

Year	Industrial Disputes						Total Employment /		
	NEW SOUTH WALES WORKERS INVOLVED			MAN DAYS LOST			In Coal Mines	In Factor- ies.	All Wage & Salary Earners(a)
	Coal Mines	Other Empl.	Total	Coal Mines	Other Empl.	Total			
In Thousands									
1937-39 (Av.)	169	24	193	466	178	644	17	220	698
1945	221	103	324	630	1249	1879	18	302	786
1957	115	140	255	177	315	492	18	423	120
1958	70	55	125	124	91	215	16	432	1128
1959	40	69	109	61	134	195	14	437	1140

(a). Excluding rural workers and female domestics. / As at end of June.

Disputes in 1959 included 13 lasting from 10 to 50 days and involving a total of 1500 men for a loss of 23,000 man working days. But the greater number of disputes (371), in particular those in mines, lasted for a day or less, and 196 disputes, involving about one half of total time lost, were of 1 to 10 days duration. The principal dispute causes in coal mines were over the filling of positions, safety issues, disciplinary measures and protests against dismissals. About one quarter of time lost in other industries was in disputes over wages, and other major causes were disciplinary measures, amenities, production methods and inter-union disputes.

CAUSES OF DISPUTES, Originating in Year. Thousand Man-working Days Lost

New South Wales	COAL MINES				OTHER INDUSTRIES			
	1956	1957	1958	1959	1956	1957	1958	1959
Wage Rates	1	-	1	2	292	146	21	32
Hours of Work	-	-	-	-	2	2	-	-
Managerial Control x	59	85	51	19	66	116	29	67
Physical Working Conditions	62	19	28	13	63	30	25	20
Trade Unionism	15	7	7	6	24	9	13	9
Protests, unconnected with Empl.	3	39	24	10	22	7	2	-
Other Causes	28	27	13	11	1	5	1	6
Total	168	77	124	61	470	315	91	134

x Includes computation of wages, fines and other disciplinary matters, promotions, objections against persons, production limitations.

PRODUCTION = New South Wales (See also graph p. 43)

The output in New South Wales of most factory products for which monthly statistics are available continued steady or rising in the March quarter of 1960. Production was generally higher than a year earlier but for about 70 percent. of 86 representative items it remained below the peak of earlier periods.

Expansion continued in 1960 in the output of basic items, such as steel, power, cement, timber and paints, as well as in many types of building fittings and appliances (hot water systems, electric stoves, washing machines, television receivers), motors and batteries. A partial recovery from the earlier decline occurred in the clothing and textile industries, and food output also compared well with last year. Items for which production did not rise or which decreased included tiles, fibrous plaster, engines, toasters, radios (other than portable), women's hosiery, footwear and sulphate of ammonia.

For the month of March 1960 new production peaks were reached for bricks (44 mill.), cement (100,000), domestic hotwater systems (4,100), and washing machines (10,200), electric motors over 1 h.p. (5,300), inner-spring mattresses (25,400), and industrial soaps and detergents (16,300 cwt.).

FACTORY PRODUCTION = New South Wales

	Unit	Year				March Quarter		
		1951/2	1957	1958	1959	1958	1959	1960
Gas	m.therm	106	116.7	115.7	118.1	25.3	24.5	25.6
Electricity	m.kWh.	4,628	7,325	7,929	8,663	1,788	1,921	2,170
Pig Iron	000 tons	1,234	1,950	2,032	2,284	504	507	557
Ingot Steel	000 tons	1,536	2,940	3,120	3,377	749	785	851
Sawn Timber (Native)	m.s.ft.	381	356	373	381	79	73	85
Cement	000 ton	594	935	985	980	225	216	251
Bricks, Clay	million	355	370	400	430	82	90	91
Tiles, Terracotta & Cement	million	43.0	34.6	41.0	45.4	9.1	10.0	9.9
Fibrous Plaster Sheets	m.s.yd.	5.0	5.6	6.1	6.3	1.4	1.4	1.4
Hot Water Systems -								
Storage (all types)	thousands	28.7	25.7	28.6	34.2	5.8	6.3	8.8
Electric Stoves	thousands	17.0	30.8	39.3	45.2	8.7	9.6	12.2
Elec. Washing Machines Ø	thousands	23.1	74.8	74.8	89.0	16.6	19.2	23.2
Refrigerators Ø	thousands	101	94	112	114	23	20	28
Radio Receivers	thousands	211	248	306	259	53	55	67
Television Receivers	thousands	n.a.	133	214	278	38	31	57
Internal Combustion Engines								
(excl. Vehicle Engines)	thousands	23	100	157	206	29	50	49
Electric Motors	thousands	452	766	857	980	174	191	274
Motor Bodies	thousands	9.3	65.4	78.0	85.3	19.5	18.6	20.1
Batteries	thousands	990	1043	970	1142	245	221	255
Scap (All types)	000 cwt.	1193	1459	1405	1377	368	349	370
Woolen Cloth -								
Woolen & Worsted Cloth	m.sq.yd.	10.4	6.9	8.3	8.6	2.3	1.9	2.1
Cotton "	m.sq.yd.	13.1	17.3	15.7	15.8	4.1	3.6	4.1
Rayon, etc. "	m.sq.yd.	6.9	15.0	8.2	8.2	2.0	1.8	2.1
Men's Sports Trousers	thousands	1,128	1,310	1,374	1,670	295	316	391
Women's Cardigans, etc.	000 doz.	101	156	162	151	41	29	36
Hosiery - Men's	000 doz.							
" - Women's	000 doz.	377	378	349	355	82	63	77
Boots, Shoes, Sandals, Slippers	prs.	464	642	687	652	150	141	136
	mill prs.	8.6	9.9	13.1	13.3	2.1	2.2	2.2
Jam	mill.lbs.	29.3	23.3	21.5	22.3	7.6	8.0	7.1
Wheaten Flour	thous.tons	563	526	339	547	75	116	115
Bacon and Ham	mill.lbs.	27.9	23.5	26.5	25.9	5.5	5.5	5.8
Beer	mill.gals.	66.8	94.5	...?	91.8	23.3	22.3	25.9

x. Subject to revision. Ø Household type.

Coal production of 4.9 m.tons in New South Wales in the first eighteen weeks of 1960 (72 possible working days) was a record for the period and exceeded the output in the corresponding period of 1959 by 8 percent. and of 1958 by 6 percent.

COAL PRODUCTION = NEW SOUTH WALES = Thousand tons

	Year ended December	1956	1957	1958	1959	26/1/58	Eighteen weeks ended	23/1/60
Underground	14,000	14,662	15,131	15,276	26,715	25,715	25,715	23,715
Open Cut	810	728	720	432	4,348	4,444	4,740	138
Total:	14,810	15,390	15,851	15,708	26,715	25,536	25,878	23,878

/ Includes three weeks holidays.

NEW BUILDING - New South Wales (See also graph p. 43)

(Approvals represent council permits and contracts let or work commenced and day labour projects authorised by Governmental Authorities).

Approvals for new dwellings numbering 10,300 in March Quarter 1960 greatly exceeded the number in any preceding March Quarter (7,996 in 1959) and were a little above the high level of 10,000 in each of the last two quarters of 1959. The exceptionally large number in the month of March (4,611) compares with the recent monthly peak of 3,716 in November 1959. Flat approvals in particular increased sharply to 2,475 in March quarter, 1960 from 901, 1,628 and 2,237 in quarters ended March, September and December, 1959. Approvals for new houses in March quarter were 7,834 in 1960 compared with 7,095 in 1959.

NEW BUILDING APPROVED - New South Wales

Period	No. of New Dwellings			Value of Building Approvals (Excl. land) £million				
	Houses	Flats	Total	Houses & Flats	Hotels, Shops Offices	Factories	Other Banks	All New Building
Year 1958	30,231	3,298	33,529	105.9	19.9	16.2	35.1	177.1
1959	30,939	5,981	36,920	116.5	27.5	23.3	39.7	207.0
Mar. Qr. 1959	7,095	901	7,996	25.1	4.0	2.6	7.4	39.1
Sept. " "	8,379	1,628	10,007	32.1	10.1	3.7	9.7	55.6
Dec. " "	7,763	2,237	10,000	31.1	13.2	6.9	6.9	58.1
Mar. " 1960	7,834	2,475	10,309	32.3	7.9	4.4	10.1	54.7
March 1959	2,460	196	2,656	8.6	1.7	0.6	3.6	14.5
March 1960	3,320	1,291	4,611	14.3	3.3	2.0	5.1	24.7

The value of approvals in March quarter, 1960 (£54.7m.) was £15.6m. or 40 percent. more than a year earlier with increases of 28 percent. for dwellings and 60 percent. for other buildings.

Commencements of new dwellings have also been rising to new peaks since 1958, and in the nine months ended March they numbered 24,109 in 1960, compared with 22,129 in 1959 and 18,983 in 1958, with corresponding rises in completions.

Recently the expansion of flat building has been noteworthy. Commencements in March quarter rose from 482 in 1958 to 856 in 1959 and 1,278 in 1960, and in the nine months ended March from 1,219 and 2,216 to 3,625. As a proportion of all dwellings commenced flats were 3.3 percent. in 1958, 12.4 percent. in 1959 and 16.0 percent. in March quarter 1960.

NEW BUILDING = New South Wales = NUMBER OF DWELLING UNITS IN HOUSES & FLATS

Quarter	Commen cements				Comple tions			Uncompleted
	1956-57	1957-58	1958-59	1959-60	1957-58	1958-59	1959-60	
September	5,839	6,703	7,721	8,254	5,824	7,494	8,300	18,055
December	5,782	6,057	6,851	7,858	6,918	7,706	8,071	17,842
March	5,949	6,223	7,557	7,997P	6,479	6,905	7,974P	17,865P
June	6,751	6,862	7,357		7,224	7,925		
Nine Months ended March								
Houses	17,088	17,764	19,913	20,484P	18,268	20,799	21,802P	14,764P
Flats	482	1,219	2,216	3,625P	953	1,306	2,543P	3,101
Total	17,570	18,983	22,129	24,109P	19,221	22,105	24,345P	17,865P

P: Preliminary. Uncompleted as at end of period.

Preliminary estimates indicate that 19,745 houses were commenced in Australia in March quarter 1960, which was the highest since 1951, and that flat commencements of 2,870 were a record. Total dwelling commencement had reached the near-record figure of 85,114 (86,548 completions) in 1959 and the total of 22,615 in March quarter 1960 was 11 percent. more than a year earlier.

NEW SOUTH WALES RAILWAYS

Record goods traffic so far this financial year brought a steep rise in Railways revenue from £56.9m. in July-March 1958-59 to £61.6m. in 1959-60. Working expenses rose to a lesser extent and net earnings for the nine months were a record, advancing from £2m. in 1957-58 and £4m. in 1958-59 to £7m. in 1959-60.

NEW SOUTH WALES RAILWAYS - Working Account

	Nine Months ended March					Month of March	
	Passenger Journeys	Goods (excl. Livestock)	Gross Earnings	Working Expenses	Net(a) Earnings	Passenger Journeys	Goods(excl. Livestock)
	Millions	Mill.tons	£ mill.	£ mill.	£ mill.	Millions	Mill.tons
1954	208.0	14.56	54.92	48.11	6.81	24.5	1.78
1958	194.0	13.39	55.96	53.96	2.00	22.9	1.52
1959	190.2	13.91	56.87	52.77	4.10	22.6	1.62
1960	190.0	15.00	61.55	54.60	6.95	21.8	1.97

(a). Excess of gross earnings over working expenses.

NEW SOUTH WALES GOVERNMENT TRAMS AND BUSES

Decreases in working expenses of the Government tram and bus services during the past three years have not kept pace with the decline in revenue. The deficiency on working account in Sydney for the nine months ended March increased from £165,000 in 1957 to £312,000 in 1959 and £506,000 in 1960. The working surplus in Newcastle also declined concurrently and thus the combined deficiency on working account for the nine months about doubled from £238,000 in 1958-59 to £482,000 in 1959-60. The increase in bus mileage since 1957 mainly reflects replacement of tram by bus services.

GOVERNMENT TRAMS AND BUSES = WORKING ACCOUNT

Nine Months Ended March	Gross Earnings	Working Expenses	Balance: Excess of Earnings (+), Expenses (-)			Bus Miles	
			Sydney	Newcastle	Total	Sydney	Newcastle
	£ thousand					Million	
1956	8,351	10,533	-2,050	-132	-2,182	20.6	4.7
1957	10,736	10,808	- 165	+ 93	- 72	20.3	4.6
1958	10,407	10,498	- 196	+105	- 91	21.9	4.3
1959	10,013	10,251	- 312	+ 74	- 238	25.3	4.3
1960	9,738	10,220	- 506	+ 24	- 482	26.2	4.3

MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS = New South Wales (See also graph 43).

Records in new registrations were again surpassed in March 1960 when 6,620 cars and 1,550 station wagons were registered. Comparing the nine months ended March 1959 and 1960 new car registrations increased by 18 percent., new station wagons by 66 percent. and new lorries etc. by 13 percent. The rise in the number of cars on the State register between March 1959 and 1960 of 36,910 to 615,140 was a little less than in the preceding twelve months (38,350), but the gain in the number of lorries, etc., and station wagons in that year increased from 17,240 in 1958-59 to 24,600 in 1959-60.

MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS = New South Wales

	NEW REGISTRATIONS			ON REGISTER at End of Period	
	Cars	Station Wagons	Lorries, Utilities, Vans	Cars	Lorries, Utilities, Vans including station wagons
	1958-March	4,850	550	1,960	539,880
1959-February	4,350	810	1,930	576,250	278,820
March	4,350	860	1,940	578,230	280,560
1960-February	5,410	1,330	1,970	612,000	303,140
March	6,620	1,550	2,380	615,140	305,160
Nine Months ended March			Increase in Year ended March		
1958	41,300	2,840	16,820	35,780	14,510
1959	43,410	6,910	17,680	38,350	17,240
1960	51,280	11,460	20,030	36,910	24,600

PART II - FINANCE AND TRADEBANKING = GENERAL - Australia

In Australia the volume of money (cash in circulation plus bank deposits other than Government and interbank deposits) increased by £247m. to £3612m. between March 1959 and 1960 which was about $2\frac{1}{2}$ times the increase of the preceding year. This represented an increase over the twelve months of $7\frac{1}{2}$ percent., whereas money in circulation increased by 5, 4 and 3 percent. in the years ended March, 1957, 1958 and 1959, respectively. The rise between March 1959 and 1960 included £128m. in savings deposits, £107m. in other bank deposits and £12m. in cash circulation.

VOLUME OF MONEY = Australia

	As at March				Increase over Previous Year			
	1957	1958	1959	1960	1957	1958	1959	1960
	Amount - £ million				Percent.			
Deposits-Savings Banks	1,198	1,267	1,349	1,477	8	6	6 $\frac{1}{2}$	9 $\frac{1}{2}$
-Other Banks	1,585	1,625	1,635	1,742	5	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	6 $\frac{1}{2}$
Notes and Coins Issued	368	374	381	393	..	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	2	3
Total	3,151	3,266	3,365	3,612	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	4	3	7 $\frac{1}{2}$

Government and inter-bank deposits are excluded. 1957 to 1959 from Reserve Bank Bulletin; 1960 preliminary estimate.

Movements in international reserves, bank advances and bank holdings of Government securities all contributed to the increase in money supply between March 1959 and 1960. Favourable oversea trade results and a further inflow of imports in that period led to a reversal of the fall in reserves over a year earlier. A rise of £38m. to £290m. in savings bank advances in the twelve months ended March 1960 matched the previous year's increase; and the increase in trading bank advances almost doubled from £27m. to £52m. in the respective years. At the same time the savings banks increased their security holdings by £39m. and £91m. respectively, and reversing the trend of the preceding three years the Central Bank also added to its security portfolio. Net holdings of securities in trading banks decreased by about £29m. between March 1959 and 1960 but this was largely offset by their investments in the short-term money market.

MAJOR ASSETS OF AUSTRALIAN BANKING SYSTEM

	As at March				Change on Prev. Year			
	1957	1958	1959	1960x	'57	'58	'59	'60
	Amount - £ million				Percent.			
1) International Reserves	505	567	504	550	+ 6	+ 12	- 11	+ 9
2) Bank Advances:								
a) Rural Credits Dept.	73	48	98	95				
b) Savings Banks	196	219	252	290				
c) Cheque-Paying Banks	910	1179	945	1212	972	1322	1024	1409
3) Government Securities:					- 3	+ 3	+ 9	+ 7
a) Reserve Bank	290	260	190	222				
b) Savings Banks	910	943	982	1073				
c) Cheque-Paying Banks	308	1508	321	1524	366	1538	368	1663
Total of above	3192	3303	3364	3622	+ 7	+ 3	+ 2	+ 8

x Item (1) and total prel. estimate. (2a,3a) Reserve Bank in 1960; earlier Commonwealth Bank and Central Bank. (3a,c) after deducting Government deposits. (3c) Includes loans to short-term money market dealers of £31m. in March 1960.

DEBITS TO CUSTOMERS' ACCOUNTS = New South Wales (Excluding Government Accounts and Central Bank transactions).

The rate of increase in money turnovers in New South Wales accelerated from the middle of 1959 onward. Bank debits did not show the usual seasonal decline in March quarter 1960 but remained at the level of the preceding quarter and were 23.2 percent. greater than a year earlier. The figures reflect the higher levels of employment, trade, investment activity and prices and wages.

DEBITS TO CUSTOMERS ACCOUNTS - N.S.W.	1956/7	1957/8	1958/9	1959/60	1956/7	1957/8	1958/9	1959/60
	Weekly Average - £ million				Percent. Rise over Previous Year			
Sept. Quarter	200.6	224.0	233.3	272.2	3.6	11.7	4.2	16.6
Dec. "	226.2	241.1	260.8	295.7	7.0	6.6	8.2	13.4
March "	218.3	222.5	239.7	295.4	15.2	1.7	7.7	23.2
June "	232.0	233.7	260.2		11.3	0.8	11.4	
Year	219.4	230.3	248.9		9.2	5.0	8.1	

MAJOR TRADING BANKS = Australia

During April 1960 trading bank deposits decreased from the March peak of £1784m. to £1760m. and advances rose by £38m. to the record total of £973m. The movements indicated seasonal demands on the banks well in excess of those in April 1959 and similar to those of 1958. There was also a small rise in Reserve Deposits and the ratio of liquid assets (cash and securities) to deposits declined from 25 percent. in March to 22 percent. in April and was then the lowest since October, 1958.

MAJOR TRADING BANKS - BUSINESS WITHIN AUSTRALIA

Average of Weekly Figures	Deposits at Credit of Customers			Advan- ces to Custom- ers	Reserve Deposit Account ∅	Public Secur- ties	Trea- sury Bills M	Cash Items	Ratio to Deposits		
	At In- terest	Other	Total						A-	Res- erve	Cash & Secur- ties
£ million											
1958-Mar. April	414 412	1,245 1,213	1,659 1,625	863 903	325 313	250 243	94 40	69 64	52 56	20 19	25 21
1959-March April Aug.	440 443 458	1,222 1,205 1,156	1,662 1,648 1,614	886 905 934	250 250 250	304 300 276	83 48 29	66 69 84	53 55 58	15 15 16	27 25 23
1960 Feb. March April	454 459 460	1,312 1,325 1,300	1,766 1,784 1,760	930 935 973	300 308 311	336 337 303	38 38 17	77 66 65	53 52 55	17 17 18	25 25 22

∅ Statutory Deposit with Reserve Bank; prior to Jan. 1960 Special Accounts with Central Bank. M Including seasonal securities.

SAVINGS BANK DEPOSITS = New South Wales

The upward trend in savings bank deposits continued in March 1960 when they increased by £2.4m. to £524m. in New South Wales and by £3.5m. to £1,477m. in Australia. Since March 1959 savings increased by £50m. or 11 percent. in New South Wales compared with increases of about 7 percent. in each of the two preceding years. The Australian increases were £128m. or 9 percent. and about 6 percent., respectively.

SAVINGS BANK DEPOSITS - New South Wales and Australia - £ million

	NEW SOUTH WALES			AUSTRALIA			
	C'wealth Savings Banks	Other Savings Banks	All Savings Banks	C'wealth Savings Banks	State Savings Banks	Other Savings Banks	All Savings Banks
Deposits at end of Month							
March 1958	362.2	76.9	439.1	715.2	405.1	147.0	1267.3
Feb. 1959	371.9	99.4	471.3	736.5	420.6	187.5	1344.6
March 1959	371.8	101.2	473.0	737.3	421.2	190.8	1349.3
Jan. 1960	390.0	127.2	517.2	776.4	444.2	242.6	1463.2
Feb. 1960	392.1	129.0	521.1	780.0	447.1	246.7	1473.8
March 1960	391.7	131.8	523.5	779.3	445.5	252.5	1477.3
Increase : March to March (Decrease -)							
1956-57	- 1.8	39.8	38.0	5.9	8.4	75.6	89.9
1957-58	2.6	24.1	26.7	10.9	11.3	47.0	69.2
1958-59	9.6	24.3	33.9	22.1	16.1	43.8	82.0
1959-60	19.9	30.6	50.5	42.0	24.3	61.7	128.0

RETAIL TRADE = Large Sydney Stores

The number of business days in March 1960 was 27 or four days more than in 1959 when Easter fell in that month. This largely explains the increase of 18 percent. in the sales value of large city stores between the two months. There were three (4 percent.) more business days in March quarter in 1960 than in 1959 but even so the rise of 10 percent. in the value of sales indicates some revival after the barely sustained values of recent years. The larger increases in sales between the two quarters were shown for women's wear (except hosiery), furniture, furnishings, electrical goods (other than T.V.) and sports and travel goods. Television receiver sales in March quarter had fallen by 6 percent. between 1953 and 1959 and decreased by a further 20 percent. in 1960. After declining throughout 1959 stock values in March quarter rose slightly above last year's level. This applied in particular to woman's wear, footwear, and fancy, sports and miscellaneous goods.

RETAIL TRADE - Large Sydney Stores

	Value of Sales					Value of Stock (End of Period)				
	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960
ALL ITEMS	Percentage Changes compared with Previous Year									
January	+ 4	+ 7	+ 2	- 4	...	+10	- 3	+ 1	- 5	+ 4
February	+ 5	...	+ 1	- 2	+ 11	+ 6	- 3	+ 3	- 8	+ 2
March	+ 2	- 5	+ 1	- 3	+ 18	+ 1	- 1	+ 4	- 9	+ 2
March Quarter	+ 4	...	+ 1	- 3	+ 10					
June Quarter	+ 1	- 2	+ 6	- 1		+ 2	- 3	+ 1	- 7	
Sept. Quarter	- 4	+ 4	+ 4	+ 1		...	- 3	...	- 6	
December Quarter	+ 1	+ 4	+ 2	+ 4		- 3	- 3	- 5	...	
Year	...	+ 2	+ 3	+ 1						
	Year	Year	Year	Year	Mar.Q.	Dec,	Dec,	Dec,	Dec.	March
	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960
H'hold Piecegoods	+ 6	- 4	+ 1	- 1	+ .8	-14	- 1	-13	...	- 2
Dress Piecegoods	- 7	- 3	- 7	- 8	+ 6	-22	- 3	-11	-10	- 3
Women's Wear	- 1	+ 1	- 1	+ 4	+ 16	- 1	+ 5	-11	- 1	+ 7
Men's & Boys' Wear	...	+ 1	+ 2	...	+ 7	+ 2	+ 1	- 3	- 2	- 3
Footwear	+ 2	+ 1	+ 2	+ 7	+ 7	- 4	+ 6	- 3	+ 5	+ 6
Clothing & P'goods	- 1	+ 2	+ 10	- 4	+ 3	- 7	...	+ 3
Furniture (incl. TV)	- 1	+ 4	+11	- 3	+ 6	- 3	- 9	- 5	- 2	- 3
Hardware, Electrical	- 1	+ 5	+ 5	...	+ 11	- 2	- 4	- 6	+ 1	-

RETAIL SALES OF GOODS = New South Wales and Australia (See also graph p. 43).
(By establishments which normally sell goods by retail to the general public.
Figures for 1958/59 and 1959/60 are subject to revision.)

Retail turnover figures for the State show a greater rise than those for the large Sydney stores. Sales in New South Wales of £243.8m. in March quarter were 3.3 percent. higher in 1960 than in 1959 which, after allowing for the incidence of Easter was a greater increase than the year to year increases of 5.4 percent. and 5.7 percent. in September and December quarters 1959 and outweighed the rise in prices as indicated by the Interim Retail Price index (see page 38).

For New South Wales the increase between March quarter 1959 and 1960 was proportional to that of sales in Australia from £576.4m. to £623.9m. The sales value of motor vehicles, parts and petrol in Australia in March quarter rose by 14.6 percent., from £176.9m. in 1959 to £202.8m. in 1960 compared with an increase of 5.7 percent. between 1958 and 1959.

	1956/57	1957/58	1958/59P	1959/60P	1957/58	1958/59P	1959/60P
	Value in £ million & rise (%) over Previous Year						
NEW SOUTH WALES	RETAIL SALES, Excluding Motor Vehicles, Parts and Petrol						
Quarter: September	213.4	221.9	230.9	244.0	4.0%	4.1%	5.7%
December	243.0	258.5	267.4	281.8	6.4%	3.4%	5.4%
March	208.5	223.3	225.2	243.8	7.1%	0.9%	8.3%
June	220.7	229.1	237.5		3.8%	3.7%	
Year	885.6	932.1	961.1		5.2%	3.1%	
AUSTRALIA	RETAIL SALES, Excluding Motor Vehicles, Parts and Petrol						
Quarter: December	620.6	647.5	673.3	717.9	4.3%	4.0%	6.6%
March	533.2	560.1	576.4	623.9	5.1%	2.9%	8.2%
AUSTRALIA	RETAIL SALES of Motor Vehicles, Parts and Petrol						
Quarter: December	164.0	180.1	195.2	223.5	9.8%	8.4%	17.1%

PRICES = Australia (see also graph p. 43)

7 P. 40?

Measured by the principal Australian indexes prices moved upward more strongly between March quarter 1959 and 1960 than in recent years. For retail prices the rise in that interval of 3.0 percent. compares increases of 2.8 percent. one year and 1.9 percent. two years previously, and for wholesale and export prices increases of 4.2 percent. and 15.3 percent. contrasted with decreases in the two preceding years. The recovery of wool and other raw materials played a major part in the movement in these two series. There was little change in import prices during the past two years.

PRICES INDEXES - AUSTRALIA

Quarter	Retail Price (1)		Wholesale Price	Export Price incl. gold	Import Price (Commwth. Bank)
	(a)	(b)			
Base Year 1952-53 = 100					
March, 1957	114	114	108	94	104
March, 1958	116	116	105	77	106
March, 1959	119	119	104	68	106
December, 1959	121	121	107	79	107
March, 1960	123	123	109	78	not yet available

PERCENTAGE CHANGE = MARCH QUARTER TO MARCH QUARTER

1946 to 1957	+ 119.0% x	n.a.	+ 143.3%	+ 199.7%	+ 103.9%
1957 to 1958	+ 1.9%	+ 2.1%	- 2.3%	- 18.4%	+ 1.9%
1958 to 1959	+ 2.8%	+ 2.5%	- 0.9%	- 11.4%	-
1959 to 1960	+ 3.0%	+ 3.2%	+ 4.2%	+ 15.3%	- Ø

(1) Interim Retail Price Index, All Groups, Six Capital Cities.

(a) Including and (b) Excluding potatoes and onions. Ø December quarters 1953 and 1959. x "C" Series Retail Price Index.

The Interim Retail Price Index (all Groups, including potatoes) increased from 119.0 in March quarter 1959 to 120.5 in September quarter and 122.6 in March quarter 1960. Over the year the increase was 3.0 percent., as compared with percentage increases in years ended March 1959, of 2.8; 1958 of 1.9; 1957 of 5.0 and of 1956 4.3. In the component series increases in the year ended March 1960 ranged from about 2.3 percent. for clothing, 2.2 percent. for 'other items' to 3.5 percent. for food and 5.2 percent. for rent. The increases were highest in Adelaide (4.4 percent.) and Melbourne (3.0 percent.), mainly through higher rents, and lowest in Hobart (2.5 percent.) with Sydney (2.8 percent.) a little below the Australian average. Compared with 1952/53, the base year of the index, the aggregate in March quarter 1960 was 121 for Sydney, 122 for Adelaide, 124 for Melbourne and Brisbane, 125 for Perth and 127 for Hobart. Increases in food and rent during this period were much less in Sydney than in the other capitals.

INTERIM RETAIL PRICE INDEX = SIX CAPITAL CITIES = Year 1952-53 = 100

	Food		Clothing & Drapery	Rent	Other Items	ALL GROUPS	
	(a)	(b)				(a)	(b)
March, 1958	114	115	109	128	120	116	116
March, 1959	117	116	110	137	125	119	119
Dec. 1959	119	119	112	143	127	121	121
March, 1960	121	121	113	145	127	123	123

(a). Includes, (b). Excludes potatoes and onions.

The Australian Wholesale Price Index (1936-7 to 1938-9 = 100) was close to 340 throughout most of 1959 and rose to 346 in January/February and 349 in March 1960. Only once before, in August 1957, has the index stood so high. Prices rose in recent months for coal, rubber, some of the principal building materials and food, and increased for both imported and home produced goods.

WHOLESALE PRICE INDEX - AUSTRALIA - Base 1936-7 to 1938-9 = 100 Ø

Month	Textile Fibres	Metal & Coal	Building Materials	Food & Tobacco	Rubber & Hides	Goods Principally Import	ALL Groups Home Prd.
March, 1958	404	398	458	323	278	301	351
March, 1959	353	390	422	341	326	282	365
Dec. 1959	411	389	433	338	359	280	366
March, 1960	395	403	438	347	337	283	376

Ø Reconstructed series, excluding potatoes and onions. Sub-series for Oils, Fats and Waxes and Chemicals not shown here.

Dominated by fluctuations in wool prices (which have a weight of 46 out of 100) the index of Australian Export Prices recovered from 331 in March 1959 to 389 in December and January and decreased to 371 in March 1960. For wool the index at these dates was 347, 437 and 415. The index for all groups other than wool rose from 319 in March 1959 to 349 in December and was 334 in March 1960. This reflects increases over the year in metals (12 percent.), butter (11 percent.) and meats offset by substantial decreases for tallow, hides and dried fruits and smaller ones for sugar and wheat. An index using actual export quantities as weights shows that in the nine months ended March 1960 export prices including wool rose by 18 percent. and excluding wool by 9 percent., as compared with a fall of 18 percent. including wool and a rise of 3 percent. excluding it in July-March, 1958-59

EXPORT PRICE INDEX - Australia = Base 1936-37 to 1938-39 = 100

Month	Wool	Wheat	Butter	Metals	Meats	Sugar	Dried Fruits	Tallow	Hides	ALL GROUPS x	
										Total	Ex.Wool
March 1958	422	371	188	375	308	496	346	380	239	358	304
March 1959	347	336	249	385	382	477	391	357	428	331	319
Dec. 1959	437	333	367	436	n.a.	458	356	307	334	389	349
March 1960	415	331	276	432	n.a.	458	332	279	345	371	334

x. Series for gold, unchanged at 178 in period not shown here.

The Reserve Bank's Import Price Index (1952/3 = 100) remained steady in 1958 and 1959; it was 107 in the second half of 1958 and 106 in the first three quarters and 107 in December quarter of 1959.

SYDNEY STOCK EXCHANGE

Prices of shares on the Sydney Stock Exchange tended upward again during April and by early in May had about regained the high values extant before the limited but sharp decline in February-March, 1960.

The monthly index showed increases in all main groups during April with Retail the only group below its former peak. The series for 34 active shares rose by 2 percent. over the month and was then 40 percent. higher than a year earlier.

INDEX OF SHARE PRICES - SYDNEY - Base: 1948 to 1950 = 100

	Manufacturing & Distributing	Retail	Pastoral Companies	Insurance	75 Companies inc. other	34 Active Shares
1951 - Peak	149	130	167	174	139	132
1956 - Low	112	119	126	124	112	108
1959 April	147	125	128	197	140	143
1960 Jan.	194	178	184	251	193	196
Feb.	197	179	209	256	198	198
March	191	172	207	265	194	196
April	197	174	210	268	195	200

PART III: RURAL INDUSTRIES

THE SEASON = New South Wales (See also graph p. 42).

Rainfall in most parts of the State was below normal in March and April. In the first two weeks in May, variable rains brought considerable relief in the Riverina, Central-Western and some Western areas, but elsewhere were of benefit (for crop preparation) to wheat farmers rather than pastoralists. The pastoral outlook is fair. Further rains are needed to ensure water supplies and increase moisture reserves for crops.

RAINFALL INDEX - New South Wales "Normal Rainfall" - 100 for each period
Districts - N:Northern, C:Central, S:Southern, W:Western

	Sheep Districts					Wheat Districts				Coastal Dairying Districts			
	N	C	S	W	Total	N	C	S	Total	N	C	S	Total
<u>1959</u>													
Sept.	88	42	88	51	71	80	40	75	67	227	95	90	176
October	116	161	218	226	174	119	157	198	178	136	317	608	243
November	159	94	103	15	108	145	104	79	94	277	218	209	253
December	160	79	82	28	88	140	88	50	71	132	102	85	119
<u>1960</u>													
January	71	110	186	195	133	71	123	202	165	81	128	77	93
February	81	109	90	97	94	67	134	96	104	93	116	220	115
March	42	43	66	55	52	38	43	62	54	85	85	115	89
April	77	63	68	34	65	92	59	63	66	49	42	38	46

DAIRYING

Dairy output in New South Wales in July-March 1959-60 totalling 286 mill. gall. was the greatest for the period in recent seasons. Dry weather accentuated the seasonal decline in production during March but March quarter output of 99 mill.gall. was about the same as in 1959.

WHOLEMILK - PRODUCTION AND USE - NEW SOUTH WALES

PERIOD	BUTTER	CHEESE	MILK BOARD DELIVERIES	PROCESSED MILK	OTHER USES	WHOLEMILK All Purposes
	m.lbs.	million	gallons			
<u>March Quarter</u>						
1956	31.3	65.9	2.5	18.3	3.8	11.5
1958	21.8	46.5	2.6	19.4	4.3	11.0
1959	29.3	61.7	3.1	20.0	4.0	10.8
1960	28.3	60.0	2.9	21.0	4.5	10.8
<u>July to March</u>						
1956	78.0	164.1	6.1	54.9	11.2	34.5
1958	52.6	112.7	7.0	58.1	11.8	32.8
1959	69.5	147.3	8.6	59.6	12.7	32.3
1960	80.1	169.7	8.2	62.0	14.1	32.4

W O O L (See also graph p. 42)

Deliveries of 1.60m. bales of wool into the Sydney, Newcastle and Goulburn stores during the ten months ended April 1960 were 6 percent. more than in this period of 1958-59 and also in excess of the previous record for the ten months of 1.57m. bales in 1956-57. Deliveries in the first ten months usually represent about 90 percent. of the season's total.

Clearances made at auction in the ten months of 1959-60 were also a record, but unsold stocks of 199,000 bales at the end of April 1960 were higher than in 1958 or 1959 but smaller than in 1957. The average price realised per lb. of greasy wool at the August-April sales rose by 22 percent. from 48½d. in 1958-59 to 59d. in 1959-60, and with the quantity sold 6 percent. greater, sales proceeds increased by 27 percent. from £84m. to £106m. This return exceeded that of the nine months of 1957-58 but was 22 percent. less than in 1956-57 when prices were higher.

RECEIPTS AND DISPOSAL OF WOOL - New South Wales Stores, Excluding Albury

	1956-57	1957-58	1958-59	1959-60		
	New South Wales			Sydney	Newcastle & Goulburn	
	Quantity in Thousand Bales					
Carry-over from June	19	38	43	48	10	58
Receipts, July-April	1,565	1,324	1,497	1,176	420	1,596
Total into Store	1,584	1,362	1,540	1,224	430	1,654
Disposals, July-April	1,370	1,246	1,376	1,071	384	1,455
Balance in Store at end of April	214	116	164	153	46	199
July-April	137.4	97.7	83.6	78.5	27.9	106.4
	Value of Sales in £ million					

Wool deliveries in the ten months of 1959-60 were greater than in 1958-59 also in Queensland and Victoria, and the Commonwealth total rose from 4.49m. bales to the record of 4.75m. bales. The volume of sales was correspondingly higher, and proceeds in the ten months increased from £238m. to £299m., which was about the same as in 1957-58 but £88m. less than in 1956-57. The average value per bale was £74, which compares with £61, £79 and £100 one, two and three seasons earlier, while the average value per lb. of greasy wool for the ten months was 59d., 48d., 65d., and 81d., respectively.

W O O L = AUSTRALIA = Ten Months ended April

			1957	1958	1959	1960
Received by Brokers	000 bales		4,590	4,216	4,489	4,753
Sold by Brokers	000 "		3,877	3,733	3,901	4,022
Total value of sales	£ million		387	298	238	299
Average Value per bale of greasy wool			£100	£79	£61	£74
Average Weight per bale of greasy wool, lbs.			297	295	303	301
Average Value per lb. of greasy wool			81d.	65d.	48d.	59d.

Wool prices declined in February 1960 but steadied at sales held in March and subsequently made some recovery. The April average of 57d. per lb. greasy, on a full-clip basis, was only 1d below this season's peak of December/January and 2d above during last season in April, 1959. The improvement in April was greatest for the finer types of wool. Prices eased again at the sales held in the first week of May.

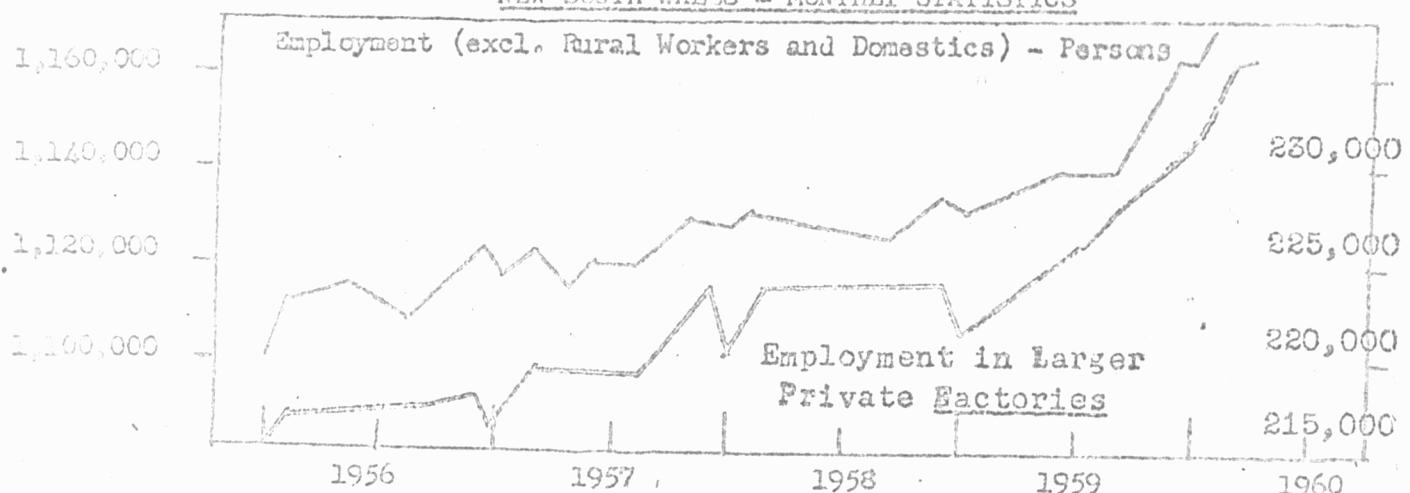
PRICE OF WOOL = New South Wales

(Average price that would be realised were whole clip sold at price level of month shown)

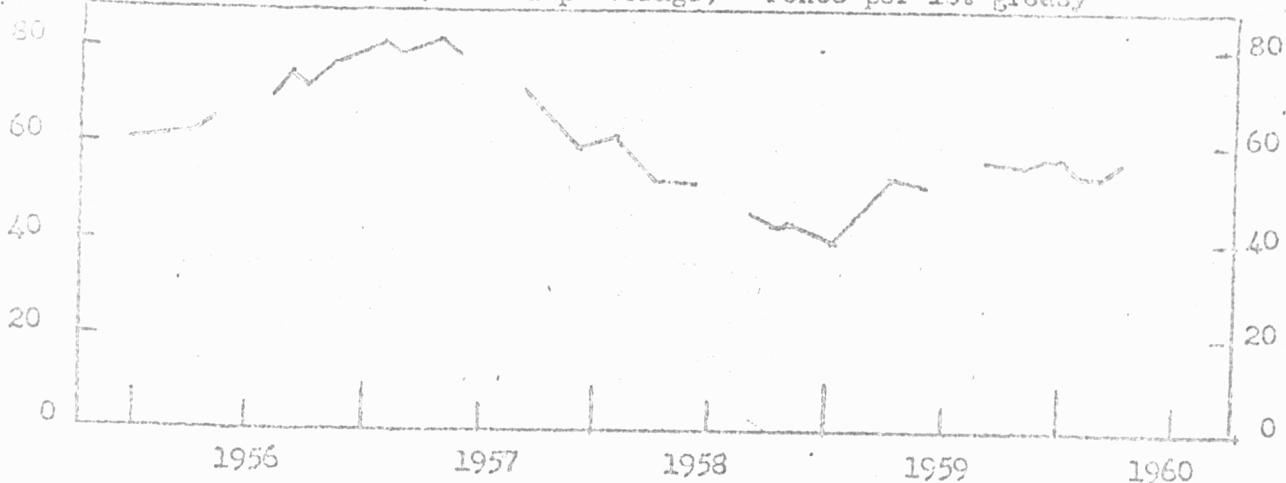
SEASON	September	December	January	February	March	April	June	Pence per pound (greasy)
								Season
1955-56	58.0	60.0	61.0	61.0	60.0	62.0	67.0	61.6
1956-57	75.0	78.0	79.0	81.0	79.0	82.0	79.0	80.5
1957-58	72.0	59.0	60.0	62.0	56.0	53.0	53.0	62.8
1958-59	47.0	43.5	42.5	45.0	45.0	55.0	53.0	48.3
1959-60	57.0	58.0	58.0	55.0P	55.0P	57.0P	53.0	

P. Preliminary.

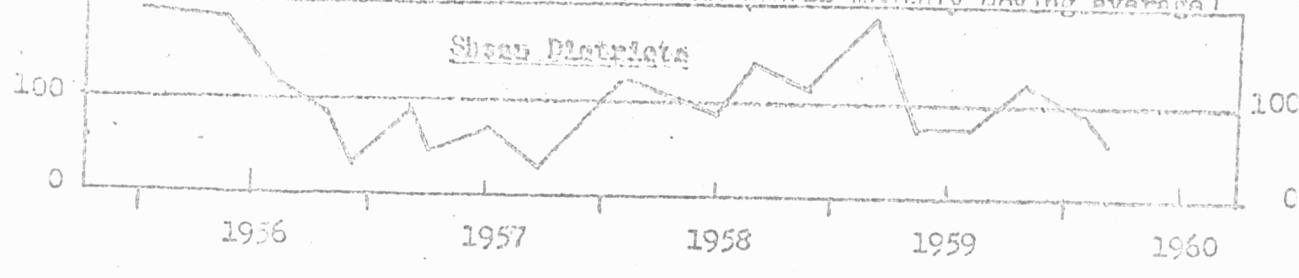
NEW SOUTH WALES - MONTHLY STATISTICS



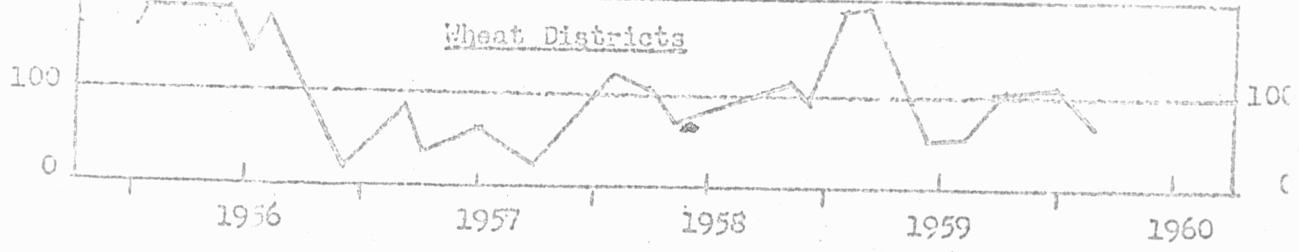
WOOL PRICE (Full-Clip Average) - Pence per lb. greasy



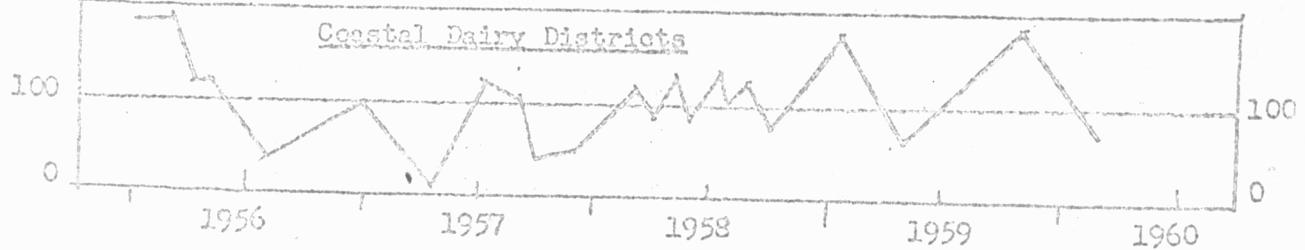
RATNFALL INDEX - NORMAL RAINFALL = 100 (Three monthly moving average)



Wheat Districts

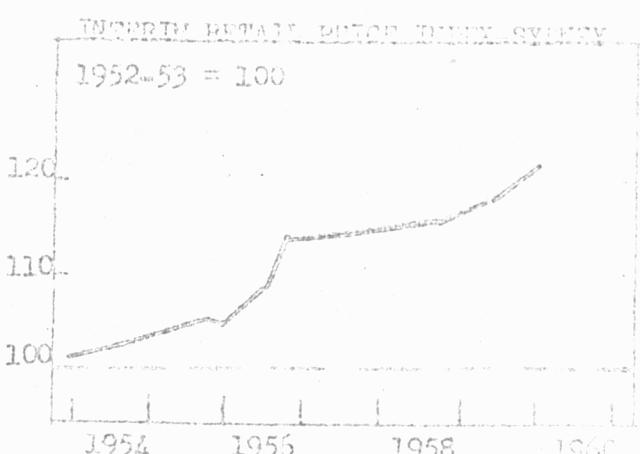
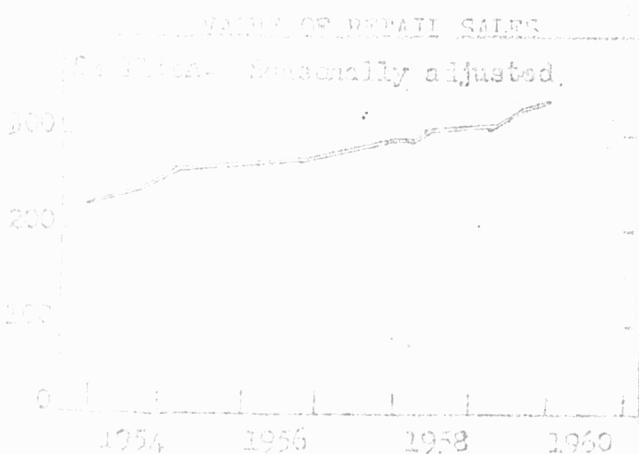
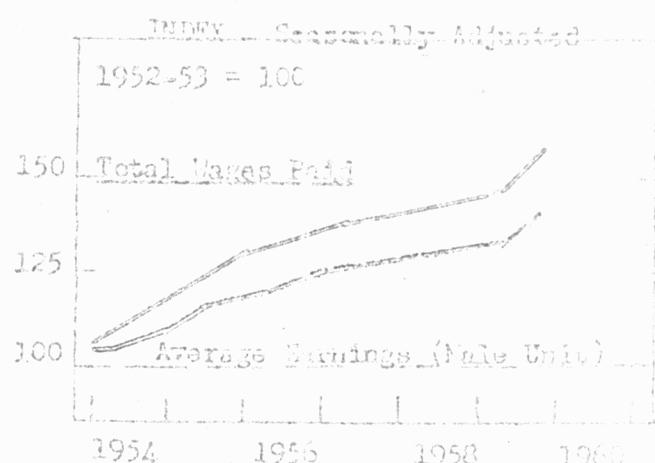
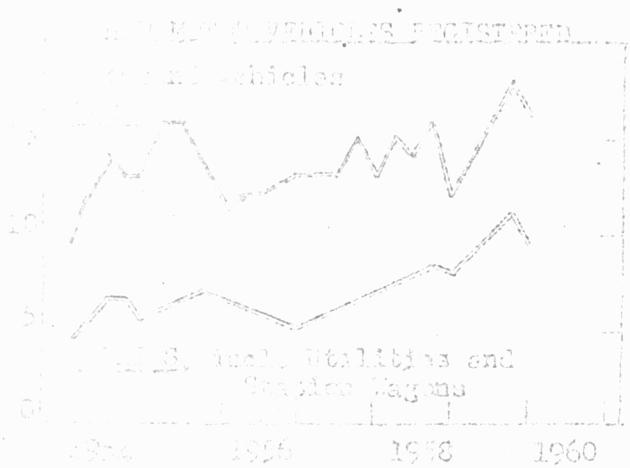
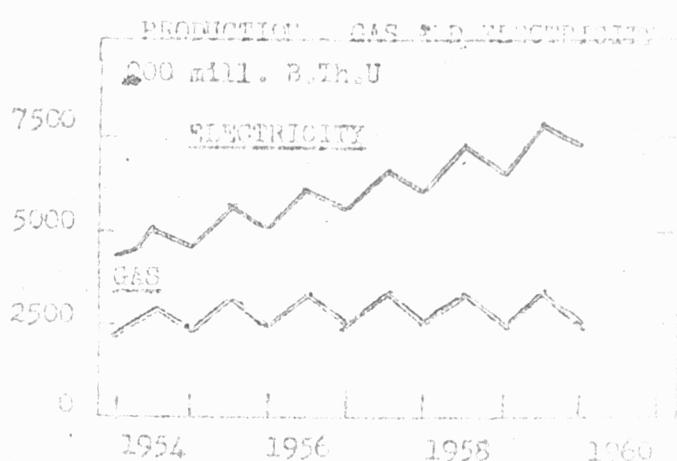
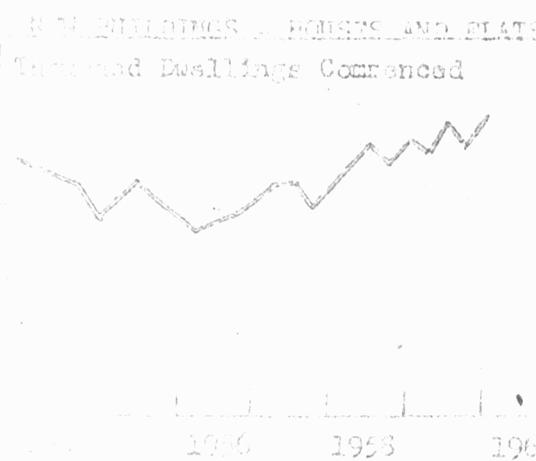
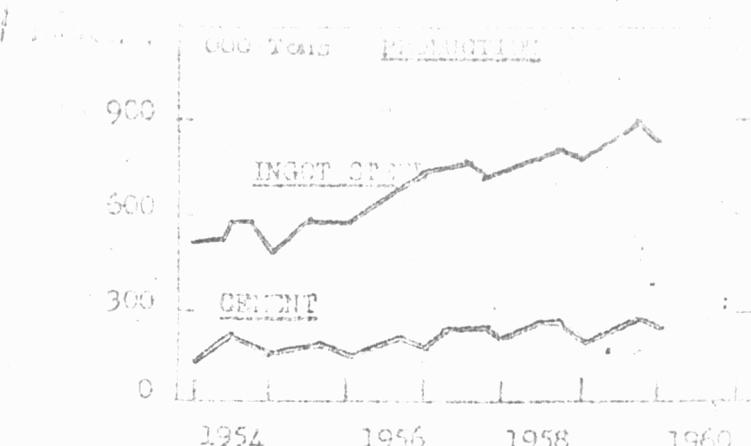
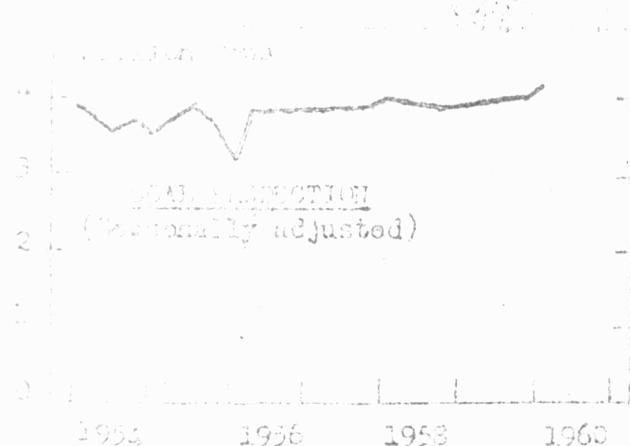


Coastal Dairy Districts



Series commence in January, 1956 and extend to April, 1960.

NEW SOUTH WALES - QUARTERLY STATISTICS



Figures start in June Quarter 1954 and extend to March quarter 1960.